(WASHINGTON, DC) - Congressman Rob Wittman announced the release of \$23 million in federal funding for agricultural conservation in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This funding for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative, a 2008 Farm Bill program, will promote agricultural conservation.

" Farms and agriculture are vital to the Commonwealth. The men and women in the agriculture sector are committed to stewardship and efforts to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. This funding will provide additional assistance and expertise for farmers to implement practices that protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay, " said Wittman.

Funding under the 2008 Farm Bill Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative program is intended to support agricultural conservation practices in Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was re-elected to his first full term in November 2008.